

Application/Control Number
CA/689,463

Art Unit

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10/7/03

Claims 1-20 are cancelled.

21. canceled

22. canceled

24.-32. canceled

34.-37. canceled

38. (Amended) A mat comprising a fabric layer and a rubber backing layer bonded together, in which the rubber backing layer has an integral peripheral region that extends beyond the fabric layer, and a thickness of said integral peripheral region increases progressively from an inner edge of said region towards an outer edge of said region.

39. (Amended) A mat according to claim 38, wherein the thickness of said integral peripheral region approximately doubles from said inner edge of said region to said outer edge of said region.

40. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer includes a pile fabric.
41. A mat according to claim 40, wherein the fabric layer includes a tufted pile.
42. A mat according to claim 41, wherein the tufted pile is cut, looped or both.
43. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer includes a synthetic fibre.
44. A mat according to claim 43, wherein the synthetic fibre includes polyamide, polyester, polypropylene or a blend of two or more of those fibers.
45. (Amended) A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer comprises at least one of a natural fibre or viscose.
46. (Amended) A mat according to claim 45, wherein the natural fibre comprises cotton.
47. (Amended) A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer has a weight in the range 300-1200g/m².
48. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer includes a woven or non-woven substrate.
49. A mat according to claim 48, wherein the substrate includes polyester or polypropylene.

50. (Amended) A mat according to claim 48, wherein the substrate has a density in the range 70-300g/m².
51. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the rubber backing layer includes a natural or synthetic rubber material.
52. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer includes a nitrile or SBR rubber material, or a blend of those rubber materials.
53. (Amended) A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has a hardness in the range 35-75 IRHD.
54. (Amended) A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer at all locations including said integral peripheral region has a thickness in the range 0.5-3.0mm.
55. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer includes surface formations in the form of raised projections and/or indentations.
56. A mat according to claim 55, wherein the surface formations provide cleats, a pattern and/or a logo.
57. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer includes perforations.
58. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has rounded corners.

59. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has a concave edge.
60. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has a clean edge.
61. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the integral peripheral region has a width of approximately 2cm.
62. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the dimensions of the mat are approximately 120cm x 80cm.
63. - 100. canceled

Please insert new claims 101-105 into the application as follows:

101. A mat according to claim 38, wherein the fabric layer has a weight of approximately 640g/m².
102. A mat according to claim 48, wherein the substrate has a density of approximately 100g/m².
103. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has a hardness of approximately 60 IRHD.
104. A mat according to claim 51, wherein the rubber backing layer has a thickness of approximately 1.01mm.